

Does every creature mean simply those of our own race and color? Christ died for the world, the whole world, and not for a chosen few. And I believe that he had just as leave save a black heathen of Africa as to save you or me. Christ is no respecter of persons.

The plan of salvation was to save the world from sin and a sinful grave. Christ has done his part. The plan is perfected that far, but the world is not all saved. To-day there are millions and millions who have never heard of Christ, and, therefore, do not believe upon him. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have never heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? It is our part in the redemption of the world to preach the Gospel of salvation to the whole world. Are we going to let the plan of salvation stop on our hands? Are we not going to take an active part in the carrying of the Gospel to the millions across the sea?

Man's place in the world and also the place for a church to work, is the place where the most can be accomplished for God. So if we, the Brethren Church, can do the most for Christ in this district, then here is the place for us to concentrate our efforts. If in Chicago in that mission field, then there we ought to push the work. But if in the foreign field we can win the most souls for Christ, then ought we not to send out men to that great field? We owe our salvation to missionaries, for if it had not been for missionaries, Christianity would have perished way back in the apostles' time. The missionary spirit has been moving along generation after generation, pushing out in new fields, with the hope of carrying the blessed news of salvation to those who knew it not. This is our generation in which to work and carry the Gospel to the lost world just across the sea.

Brethren and sisters, do you know that just beyond our horizon is a lost world grasping for something beyond—a world with a hope, and that hope is a missionary salvation? Look at Mexico, our southern neighbor—"abused, neglected, needy Mexico!" Six out of every seven of her people are in absolute illiteracy; her capital removed only six days journey from ours, yet left more than six centuries behind us in spiritual growth. She stands open to-day waiting for the life blood of a pure Gospel to be preached to her.

South America has been left without the Bible for centuries. Fathom her needs in the light of the future. Our west is needy, but what of Ecuador, with a population equal to Kansas, yet without a missionary? What of Bolivia with a population as large

as California, yet without a herald of anything that can be called a Gospel?

Africa.—"Slavery, fettered in soul, manacled in mind, enslaved in body." In the great heart of that dark continent are 75,000,000 souls, for whom Christ died, and they are not sought for by a single missionary. There are more Christian workers among the 8,000,000 negroes of the South than among the 160,000,000 of Africa.

India—Crisis. She has a population five times as large as the United States, yet there are more Christian workers in New York City or Chicago than in all India. China—"death will characterize it." There are a thousand walled cities in China, cities that are centers of government, of learning and of influence, and yet they have no one there claiming the cause of Christ. Mr. Eddy says, "That if we had the same proportion of ministers in this country that they have foreign missionaries in China, there would be but one for Boston and less than two for Brooklyn."

When we remember that out of every 4,000 Christians 3,999 are remaining in this country; that of every 1,000 young people, 999 are staying at home; that sixty-four out of every sixty-five of our ordained ministers are staying in this country, we are wont to ask the question is it fair? Has not God a claim of this need in work upon us? Was it not this that spurred Paul on to regions beyond? Was it not for this that our Lord pressed on to other cities? Did he not teach that the preference was in favor of the lost sheep?

Brethren, cannot we spare a man or two to go as bright lights into all parts of the world? Are we consistent with the plan of God when we retain our three hundred and thirty odd ministers to keep watch over our few thousand members, when the need is so much greater in foreign fields? Can we as a church look God in the face and say that we can spare no one to go and save the millions across the sea? Is it possible that the needs and cries of the millions cannot be heard above the whims of the few? I believe God wants men to go where the need is greatest. A general in planning a campaign puts his largest force where the most fighting is to be done, so God would send his strongest force where his children are steeped the deepest in sin.

We do not plead for the foreign field in opposition to the home field. No part of the kingdom is advanced at the expense of another. The field is one. But it is because the field is one that we plead for the neglected portion of that field, with its even larger opportunity, yet far smaller

supply of workers. One of our best known theological professors estimates "that many of even our present force of ministers might be spared for the needs in work abroad if denominational competition were given up and the present force were fairly divided." Dr. McKenzie, of Cambridge, says: "If there were not a clergyman added to those in New England in twenty-five years, we would have enough."

But, you say, we are not strong enough as a church. Read the history of missions of the Baptist church—how Dr. Judson and two other missionaries started out to the foreign field under the protection of the Congregational church, but while on their way out they became Baptists and sent back to the then scattered Baptist churches for support. The various churches throughout the brotherhood responded, and to-day they are the strongest missionary church in the land. Brethren we need missionaries in the foreign field to unite us and strengthen us, to bring our scattered forces together in one common brotherhood. If we expect God's blessing upon us as a church we must do his will. Need at home, yes; but there always will be need here. We might put all the ministers of our church in this community and let them live here the remainder of their days, and there would still be unconverted men and women left. One out of every five in the home field has accepted Christ as his personal Savior, and the other four have heard of him. In the foreign field there are 800,000,000 who have never heard of Christ. Here there is one Christian worker to every fifty persons; in the foreign, one to every 24,000. Brethren, are we rightly divided in God's vineyard? Brethren can we not support a missionary in the great needy field?

What we as a church need is education along missionary lines. We are in total ignorance as to the needs of the field. I have as yet to hear from a Brethren minister my first missionary sermon. Let us as a church become educated along missionary lines, both home and foreign, for until the laymen of our church are educated in these lines, we can not hope for their support. I would that the ministers of this district would do all in their power to enlighten the minds of their respective flock upon this great part of God's work. Go ye in all parts of the world and preach the Gospel to every creature. The world is open, the opportunity is ripe, the spirit is ready—and we? Men of Macedonia are calling to-day from every shore. The blind: Have mercy upon us; the hungry: Give us the bread of life; the lame and halt: Come over and help us. Brethren and sisters, arise! let us go hence.

There are no reserved seats in Heaven.